



**South Carolina
Department of
Juvenile Justice**

Bill Byars, Director



P.O. Box 21069
Columbia, SC 29221-1069
www.state.sc.us/djj

Mark Sanford
Governor
State of South Carolina

June 29, 2009

The Honorable Jim Rex
State Superintendent of Education
1429 Senate Street
Rutledge Building
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Superintendent Rex:

In compliance with Joint Resolution H.3352 (R.14), attached you will find the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice School District's report on Funding Flexibility and Spending Reductions for the fourth quarter of the 2008-2009 school year. As you know, state law (63-19-380) designates the Department "as a special school district" and mandates that we "operate a continuous progress education program" throughout the entire year. As such and because we are a Title I school district with approximately 45% of our student population identified for special education, and because we don't have a local tax base to generate additional funding, a much larger percentage of our operating funds are restricted, and, therefore, our ability, unlike conventional school districts, to move Title I, IDEA, and other federally based funds into other program areas, or to cover other expenses, is limited.

However, in Section I of the attached report, we are requesting funding transfers for amounts remaining in ten (10) specified funds that do allow for this type of flexibility. These funds will be transferred to EFA and EIA accounts to cover payroll deficits.

Because of the appropriation reductions and budget cuts experienced by all of state government in FY 08-09, the Department's school district began making cuts in personnel and reducing expenditures in the first quarter of its school year. These reductions include the termination for budgetary reasons of 29 teachers and certified staff and the termination of 5 support personnel. This represented approximately 23% of the DJJ School District staff. While our teacher-student ratios are much higher in most areas as a result, they have not yet exceeded the Defined Minimum Program for our special school district, and, therefore, no waiver of these ratios is necessary at this time.

The Honorable Jim Rex, State Superintendent of Education
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Additional cost savings occurred when DJJ furloughed all of its employees for 10 days, including its educational personnel, during the second, third and fourth quarters of this fiscal year. Since this mandatory furlough was not implemented until December of 2008, it was necessary to use two (2) of our 225 instructional days. However, since the school district used only one of the three (3) snow days allowed by the Governor, we were able to use the other two (2) days for this purpose.

Finally, DJJ's school district has significantly reduced its expenditures for travel, eliminated all conferences and staff training unless mandated and paid through a grant funding source, and greatly reduced the number of part time personnel who oversee and provide our after school recreational sports, and other extra curricular programming.

Thank you for taking the time to review this information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call or email either one, or both of us, and we will gladly provide this additional information to you.

With kind personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,

William R. Byars, Jr.
Chairman, DJJ School Board

Meda C. Cobb
Superintendent, DJJ School District

WRB,Jr/MC/db

cc: Hon. Hugh K. Leatherman, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
Hon. John E. Courson, Chairman, Senate Education Committee
Hon. Daniel T. Cooper, Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee
Hon. Phillip D. Owens, Chairman, House Education and Public Works Committee

Funding Flexibility - Fiscal Year 2008-2009**Deadline June 30, 2009****Joint Resolution H. 3352****All Transfers must be reported and completed by deadline****SCDE Receipt:****District Name:****SCDJJ****Section I. (provide additional forms as necessary)**

Transfer From (Include Program name and sub-fund *) Current Allocation Transfer Amount (up to 100%) Transfer to (Include Program name and sub-fund)

(Identify any prior year carryover amounts)

3472 - ADEPT Induction	4,542	4,542	100 - General fund
3472 - NBC Incentive	6,982	6,982	100 - General fund
4973 - 8th grade awareness	1,585		100 - General fund
4973 - 9th grade awareness	2,418		100 - General fund
4973 - High School That Work	8,236		100 - General fund
4973 - Technology Initiative	40,455		100 - General fund
4973 - Family Literacy	39,075		100 - General fund

* The following appropriations are excluded from this flexibility (both as transfers into and out): Teacher Salary Supplement, National Board Certification, Teacher Supply and Teacher of the Year

Districts should use judicious caution when transferring those funds received through a competitive grant process

Section 2. (provide additional information as necessary)(1) Our district suspended staffing ratios in the following (2) Our district delayed the following number of teacher contracts: (2)b The following number of contracts were not renewed (3) Our district negotiated the following number of retiree salaries (4) Our district furloughed teachers the following number of days (4)b Our district furloughed administrators the following number of days (5) Our district has suspended the following noninstructional/nonessential programs for the 2008-2009 school year.

District Approval: The signatures below certify that this action was approved at a regularly scheduled school board meeting.

Board Chair Signature:

Date: _____

Superintendent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Completed by: (please print) _____ Date: _____

Contact Phone No: _____